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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/716,900	11/20/2000	Dieter Draxelmayr	INF-P10182	8143

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EXAMINER

STRECKER, GERARD R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2862

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/716,900

Applicant(s)

DRAXELMAYR

Examiner

G. R. STRECKER

Group Art Unit

2862

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement

## Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the:

- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received  
in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 5
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Office Action Summary

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The drawings are objected to because the blocks 10 and 5 in figs. 1 and 2 should be labeled. Correction is required.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: At page 16, line 4, it is not clear what the "magnet signal" refers to.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 1 recites the steps of externally modulating a supply voltage on a voltage supply line connected to the sensor, analyzing the modulated supply voltage received in the sensor with regard to fulfillment of a predetermined criterion stored in the sensor and interpreting the received modulated signal as an external communication signal if the criterion is fulfilled. It is not clear however, from the description at pages 8-17, what the modulation/demodulation circuit 10 includes, what the sensor with intelligent circuit comprises, what the voltage supply with a negative resistance characteristic comprises and how the elements which make up the modulation/demodulation circuit, the voltage supply and the sensor, structurally and functionally cooperate to carry out the various functions such as switching from normal operation into the "test mode or communication mode" (page 11, lines 11, 12), changing the behavior of the sensor

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(page 12, lines 8, 9) and return to normal operation. Nor is it clear how and where the modulated supply voltage is analyzed and interpreted.

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

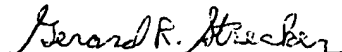
In claim 1; at lines 3 and 4, it is not clear what the output signal and the successive pulses thereof represent. At lines 9 and 10, it is not clear what the stored predetermined criterion is related to. At lines 11 and 12, it is not clear what an "external communication signal" represents or defines.

Hagl, Mandel, Wetzal et al, Modgil and Renger are made of record to show sensing systems using power supply lines for data transmission.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to G. R. Strecker at telephone number (703) 305-4937.

Strecker/ds

03/12/02

  
**GERARD R. STRECKER**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**